

The Klamath Tribes

February 25, 2021

Director Office of Child Care 330 C St. SW 4th floor Washington, DC 20201

Dear OCC Director:

This letter describes how the Klamath Tribes plans to use the Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF) awarded under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA). We understand that this description will be used for the purpose of informing the Office of Child Care Administration for Children and Families and Congress how our Lead Agency anticipates using the funds to support the child care needs in our jurisdiction.

We plan to use CRRSA funds for activities in the following categories:

- 1. Direct Services/Subsidies
 - The Klamath Tribes Lead Agency will use the CRRSA funds to provide subsidy assistance for direct child care services that includes subsidy assistance to health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, farm and other food service workers, and/or other workers deemed essential or frontline during the response to coronavirus.
 - Explore the possibility and approximate cost of adding more child care providers, including home child care providers on a temporary and/or permanent basis.
 - Hire a temporary employee to assist in implementing this project.
- 2. Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices. The Klamath Tribes Plans to provide resources, supplies, and technical assistant to child care providers and families in need to support implementation of health and safety practices and policies due to the coronavirus pandemic. We are exploring the below opportunities.
 - Provide cleaning supplies "care package" (wipes, cleaning supplies, scan thermometer, and other personal protection equipment) to child care providers at least twice during the next 12 months. Provide families with a scan thermometer, face
 - Provide assistant for a professional cleaning company to provide cleaning services to the ECDC facility at least twice during the next 12 months.
 - Purchase tablets for the home child care providers in order to safely improve communication, training, promote family connections and interactions with the provider and compliance with social/physical distancing. This can

be used for virtual meeting help during the pandemic as the Klamath Tribes ECDC is following emergency child care guidelines.

- Purchase and install television technology in each ECDC classroom to provide virtual communication services for language and cultural programs, storytelling and live training for mental health services or virtual telehealth services.
- Purchase cleaning and sanitizing equipment such as steam mops and/or table top sanitizers for classrooms, and an electro static fogger. Purchase a commercial carpet cleaner for the facility.
- Explore the possibility of creating outdoor learning spaces for the ECDC playground.
- 3. Grants or Assistance (Other than subsidies) to stabilize ChildCare Provider
 - Retention Bonus home care providers stipend or bonus to continue to provide child care services through the pandemic. A retention/incentive bonus may be considered for Center child care employees.
 - Provide funding for equipment needed for home child care provider(s) in order to meet health
 and safety needs. This would be a one-time purchase used to provide for needed health and
 safety during the pandemic. It could be a sanitizer, washer, dryer, or a dishwasher as an
 example.
- 4. Assistant to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic
 - To support new care providers in the area, provide a start-up kit with cleaning and first aid supplies and personal protective equipment.

5. Other

The tribes will continue with the current amendments to the CCDF Plan FY 2020-2022:

Section 3.1.2 j – Quality Activities – Amended to reflect that during the declared emergency for COVID-19, incentive/retention payments to child care providers would be added in order to maintain the supply of child care.

Section 4.1 f – Copayments – Amended to reflect that during the declared emergency for COVID-19, copayments were waived for all families.

• Explore and pursue other opportunities to respond to covid-19, based on provider and other stakeholder input.

The Klamath Tribes Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC) has not yet determined specifically how CCDF CRRSA funds will be spent. The estimated timeline for determining and approving how funds will be spent is as follows:

- 1. February 2021 Discuss with ECDC staff as well as others how best to use the CRRSA funds. Explore ideas and associated costs.
- 2. March 2021 Send child care providers a <u>survey</u> for priority and needs, tabulate results. Prepare budget and process for implementation. Finalize plan and start the internal administrative review process.
- 3. April 2021 Complete administrative review process, including approval by the Tribal Council. Get budget approved by Budget Committee. Start the hiring process.
- 4. May start implementation of the plan.

The Klamath Tribes will amend our CCDF Plan as a result of activities implemented under CRRSA funding not currently described in the plan, within 60 days of implementation.

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Sincerely,

/s/

Donald C. Gentry, Chairman The Klamath Tribes

cc: Paul Noski, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care, Region 10 Catherine Jackson, Program Specialist, Office of Child Care Region 10 Joshua Lee, Program Specialist, Office of Child, Region